

APPROVED

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
GRIFFIN ROOM, TOWN HALL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Brown, Kavanagh, LaMantia, MacAskill

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Assistant Town Administrator Charleen Greenhalgh, Amy Usowski, Dan Pelletier, Bob Thomas, Allin Thompson, Larry Cole, Maggie Downey, Walter Diggs, Sally Urbano, Lou Urbano, Nancy Pollard, and others.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman MacAskill.

WEEKLY BRIEFING

Mr. Pelletier reported that in April 2015 an EPA sample showed an elevated level of Chromium 6 at Well 10, specifically 200 ppb with the EPA standard being 100 ppb. He noted that upon receiving the results, the Water Department worked with DEP in retesting in five locations for Chromium 6 and all tests came back with none detected. He stated that DEP thinks the reason for this initial detection was the new stainless steel equipment that was put in at the filter treatment plant. Mr. Pelletier further reported that the Water Department is going to be initiating the flushing program next week and more information is on their website.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cole described the routes for the road race this weekend. He also discussed the upcoming Utility & Energy Committee's Energy & Sustainability Fair on October 29th at the Community Center.

Ms. Urbano expressed concern over a recent newspaper article indicating that the Board had already given their support to the HECH/Habitat project in West Harwich and Chairman MacAskill responded that the Board has not voted on this yet. Mr. Clark noted that this will be on the next agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes
 - 1. September 12, 2016 – Regular Session
- B. Confirm the appointment of Alyxandra Sabatino as the new Town Planner
- C. Confirm the appointment of Andrew Sousa as a Heavy Equipment Operator as recommended by the DPW Director
- D. Approve the recommendation of the Selectmen's Interview/Nominations Subcommittee to appoint the following:
 - 1. Amy Harris to the Housing Committee – term to expire on June 30, 2017
 - 2. Rosann Donahue to the Cultural Council – term to expire on June 30, 2017
 - 3. Virginia Doyle to the Architectural Advisory – term to expire on June 30, 2019

- 4. Liz Dubuque to the Trails Committee – term to expire on June 30, 2019
- E. Confirm the re-appoint Ralph Smith to a new term as a member of the Community Center Facilities Committee as the Council on Aging representative
- F. Approve the recommendation of the Town Administrator and Animal Control Officer to issue a Dog Order for a dog owned by Melissa Bessette following a Hearing held on September 22, 2016
- G. Approve request by The Garden Club of Harwich for a One-Day Special License for Wine and Malt on October 1, 2016 for fundraiser at The Moorings in Harwich Port

Ms. Kavanagh moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PRESENTATIONS *(Not earlier than 6:30 P.M.)*

A. Annual Meetings with the Board of Selectmen:

1. Conservation Commission

Mr. Diggs, Chair, and Ms. Usowski delivered the annual report of the Conservation Commission and took questions and comments from the Board.

2. Real Estate and Open Space

Mr. Thomas, Vice-Chair, delivered the annual report of the Real Estate and Open Space Committee and took questions and comments from the Board.

B. Cape Light Compact update on Eversource’s Grid Modernization Plan for the Vineyard & Cape Cod

Maggie Downey, Administrator of Cape Light Compact and Austin Brandt, Power Supply Planner, provided a Power Point presentation entitled “Eversource’s Grid Modernization Plan: Does It Lay The Foundation We Need For Our Communities’ Energy Future?” They took questions and comments from the Board.

C. Town Administrator/Finance Director to present the Five-Year Financial Plan

Mr. Clark presented the Five Year Plan and took questions and comments from the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. West Harwich Plume Site Assessment/Proposal by Bennett Environmental – Paula Champagne

Ms. Champagne provided the a Power Point presentation resulting from her review of over 1,000 pages of documents.

Mr. Clark noted that we received an email response back from DEP which mirrored Ms. Champagne's remarks.

In response to a question from Mr. LaMantia, Ms. Champagne explained that the literature demonstrated that the groundwater in that area moved a half a foot a day and so theoretically from the laundromat to the Herring River a drop would take 20 years to reach the Herring River, so we should be nearing the end of the travel as it is close to 20 years. Ms. Pflieger asked about what happens in states of drought and Ms. Champagne responded that the entire groundwater lens will drop so it will be even further down. Mr. Urbano asked at what depth does it flow into the river and Ms. Champagne responded that the freshwater flows under the saltwater and the groundwater rises at the bottom of the river. He stated that we should do a study on the North Road properties to see if the chemicals are coming up closer to those homes. Ms. Champagne responded that those homes have had indoor air testing with the three houses on Smith Street having been studied the most. She provided the data on that noting that samples were taken right near that location of the Herring River and there was nothing detected. She stated that the flow of the Herring River is so great that the scientists believe that anything entering there is going to be subject to aeration and volatilized. Ms. Urbano stated that she understands that this is just a temporary fix using natural attenuation and a permanent fix is not going to happen based on either it costs too much money, they couldn't get it done quickly enough, or they don't have the means by which to fix it. She noted that there were other dry cleaners, an auto parts store and heating oil spill in the area and she still has concerns. She asked why we can't look at this again and have it evaluated. Ms. Champagne stated that when we they started this study with the Pinewood Village there was anecdotal information brought to the office through other municipal agencies of other possible sources in the area. She noted that some of them were substantiated and some of them weren't. She stated that some of them were ruled out as they were just laundromats and not using the same kind of chemicals. She stated that one of the reasons the Dennisport laundromat isn't being listed as solely responsible is because of this question that there may be some other minor contributors. She noted that there is also one set of test wells in the West Harwich area that indicated that there could have been another minor contributing factor and there alludes to some other sites in the documents. She noted that attenuation is too expensive and too broad and we have taken care of the risk exposures which seems to be accepted as the remediation. Ms. Champagne stressed that all of this is being driven by the DEP regulations. She stated that if there are private wells out there that we don't know about we certainly want to counsel those residents. Ms. Pollard stated that she lives in one of those houses on the Herring River and questioned if they need to be concerned if they have town water or is this only for people who have a well. Ms. Champagne responded that you do not need to be concerned if you have town water and it is highly regulated, monitored and tested. Ms. Pollard further stated that she spent many summers in Pinewood Village as a child before it became condominiums and questioned if back then they had town water. Ms. Champagne responded that it is her understanding that it had been on town water and when it was made into condos in 1978 is when they drilled the well. Ms. Pollard further noted that her children had grown up there as well. Chairman MacAskill said we can provide her with dates on that.

Mr. Clark outlined the proposal from Bennett Environmental. Ms. Champagne took questions from the Board. The Board took no action on the proposal.

Danny Horn of 34 Smith St. questioned if the risk is in the air quality and how do you go about getting that tested. Ms. Champagne responded that she would be happy to share the testing information to see if his home is one of the ones that had been tested. She took further questions from Mr. Horn.

- B. Request by George Olmsted for support for a Petition Article (Chatham) to change the name of Muddy Creek to Monomoy River

With Mr. Olmsted not present, the consensus of the Board was to take no action on this item.

- C. Report of 2015 closing of the books and auditing process – Finance Director

Mr. Gould reported that 2015 books have been closed since around Thanksgiving. He noted that the audit has been done and free cash couldn't have been certified if the books weren't closed. He said he is planning to get the books closed and free cash certified for 2016 by the end of October. He said this is the last year of the auditing firm's contract and he hasn't been really impressed with them. He asked the Board if they would be open to changing auditors and he noted that it is common practice to do that periodically. Mr. Clark said we can finish out the contract with the auditors and obtain quotes from other firms for next year.

- D. Action Item Register additional items to be added

No additional items were added to the Action Item Register.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Middle School Room Fees

Mr. Clark noted that the requested adjustments have been made to the fees.

- B. Beach Road Nourishment

Mr. Clark noted that he will be having a meeting shortly with staff to discuss this. He stated we have some data from a CZM analysis which we will look at to see what potentially we could do in that area. He added that he will request that a survey be done right on the easement to point out the property boundary.

- C. CWMP Amendment #1 – CDM Smith

Mr. Clark reported that this is in regard to doing the public outreach work on wastewater. He noted that it is only \$15,000 and under the threshold that the Board has authorized him to sign. The Board had no issues with the proposal.

- D. Action Item Register update

Mr. Clark reported that there were no further updates from last time.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

A. No Place for Hate Program

Chairman MacAskill pointed out that this was a volunteer initiative led by former Selectman McManus and nothing has been done on it since 2006. The Board did not have interest in taking this on and Chairman MacAskill encouraged the public to get involved.

B. Goals and Objectives

Chairman MacAskill noted that this is an abbreviated version of the Board's goals and objectives and he asked the Board to provide input. He stated that Mr. Clark is coming back next week with his goals and objectives.

C. Draft FY 18 Budget Message

Ms. Brown read the budget message and Chairman MacAskill asked the Board to review and submit comments to him.

D. Committee Vacancy List

Ms. Brown read the Committee vacancy list.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Kavanagh moved to adjourn at 9:28 p.m. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Steidel
Recording Secretary

Related Documents - 9/26/16

- 01 Agenda.pdf
- 02 Minutes September 12, 2016.pdf
- 03 Town Planner.pdf
- 04 Heavy Equip Operator-Truck Driver.pdf
- 05 Appointments.pdf
- 06 Bessette Dog Hearing.pdf
- 07 Garden Club 1-Day License.pdf
- 08 Annual Report - Conservation.pdf
- 09 Annual Report - REOS Charge.pdf
- 10 Cape Light Compact Presentation.pdf
- 11 5-Year Financial Plan.pdf
- 12 W. Harwich Groundwater Plume.pdf
- 13 Bennett Environmental Proposal.pdf
- 14 Muddy Creek Name Change.pdf
- 15 Action Item Register update.pdf
- 16 TA Rpt - Middle School Room Fees.pdf
- 17 TA Rpt - CWMP Amendment 1.pdf
- 18 BOS Rpt - No Place For Hate.pdf
- 19 BOS Rpt - Goals and Objectives.pdf
- 20 Committee Vacancy List 9-26.pdf